

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION MIRAMAR P.O. BOX 452000 SAN DIEGO CA 92145-2000

10 N REPLY REFER TO: 5090 0 5 6 6

JAN 2 9 2004

Field Supervisor
Arizona Ecological Services Office
U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
2321 West Royal Palm Road, Suite 103
Phoenix, Arizona 85021

Dear Mr. Spangle:

SUBJECT:

SCOPING FOR DESIGNATION OF SOUTHWESTERN WILLOW

FLYCATCHER CRITICAL HABITAT

This letter is being sent to provide information on the current status of southwestern willow flycatchers (SWF) on Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Miramar pursuant to the "Notice of Scoping Meeting and Intent to prepare and Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Designation of Critical Habitat for the Southwestern willow flycatcher" posted in (Fed. Reg./Vol. 69, No. 13 of 21 January 2003).

Recent surveys conducted on MCAS Miramar for this species and the least Bell's vireo failed to identify any SWF on the Station. Suitable riparian habitat for the SWF receives special management as outlined in our Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan.

CH 43

noted

FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE

At this time, we would also like to request that a copy of the Draft Environmental Assessment be sent to us at the following address when it becomes available for public review.

COMMANDING GENERAL ATTN ACS ENVIRN MGMT MCAS MIRAMAR PO BOX 452000 SAN DIEGO, CA 92145 2000

Our Point of contact is Mr. David Boyer, Director, Natural Resources Division, at (858) 577-1125.

Sincerely

Wayne D. Lee

Assistant Chief of Staff, Environmental Management

By direction of the Commanding General